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CASE OP/4-32290P1/USN

#### FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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April 5, 2002 Date of Deposit

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

AYERS ET AL.

**APPLICATION NO: 09/944,803** 

FILED: AUGUST 31, 2001

FOR: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING PRODUCT SALES DATA

FOR EXTERNAL REPORTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

## RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY

Sir:

This communication is in response to the Notice of Incomplete Reply mailed March 21, 2002 with regard to the the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application - Filing Date Granted dated October 5, 2001 which had a shortened statutory time set to expire on December 5, 2001. Applicants now submit substitute drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84.

The response and the Notice to File Missing Parts was submitted on February 26, 2002 with a petition and authorization to pay the fee for a 3 month extension of time. Applicant herewith submits a petition and authorization to charge the fee for a 4th month extension to charge account No. 19-0134.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation.

Novartis Corporation
Patent and Trademark Dept.
564 Morris Avenue
Summit, NJ 07901-1027
(908) 522-6946
Date: April 5, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Wildman

Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 40,226

APR 0 5 2092 UNTASD

ATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

WWW,USDID.GO

APPLICATION NUMBER

FILING/RECEIPT DATE

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER

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08/31/2001

Mona Ayers

OP/4-32290P1/USN

519/9001 CONFIRMATION NO. 1420

FORMALITIES LETTER OC000000007621926\*

Lloyd G. Farr Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP P.O. Box 11070 Columbia, SC 29211

Date Mailed: 03/21/2002

# NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY (NONPROVISIONAL)

## Filing Date Granted

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has received your reply on 02/25/2002 to the Notice to File Missing Parts (Notice) mailed 10/05/2001 and it has been entered into the nonprovisional application. The reply, however, does not include the following items required in the Notice.

The period of reply remains as set forth in the Notice. You may, however, obtain EXTENSIONS OF TIME under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a) accompanied by the appropriate fee (37 CFR 1.17(a)).

A complete reply must be timely filed to prevent ABANDONMENT of the above-identified application.

The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below.

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Substitute drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 because;
  - drawing sheets do not have the appropriate margin(s) (see 37 CFR 1.84(g)). Each sheet must include a top margin of at least 2.5 cm. (1 inch), a left side margin of at least 2.5 cm. (1 inch), a right side margin of at least 1.5 cm. (5/8 inch), and a bottom margin of at least 1.0 cm. (3/8 inch);

A copy of this notice <u>MUST</u> be returned with the reply.

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

MAR 25 2002

NELSON MULLINS COLUMBIA OFFICE